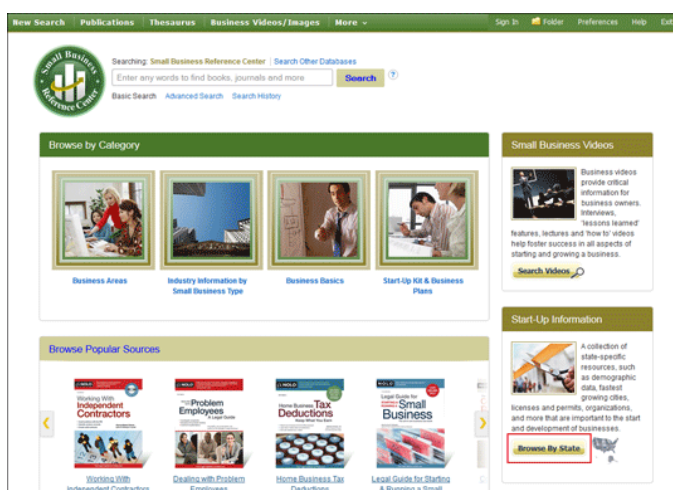


## Small Business Reference Center - Browsing Start-Up Information

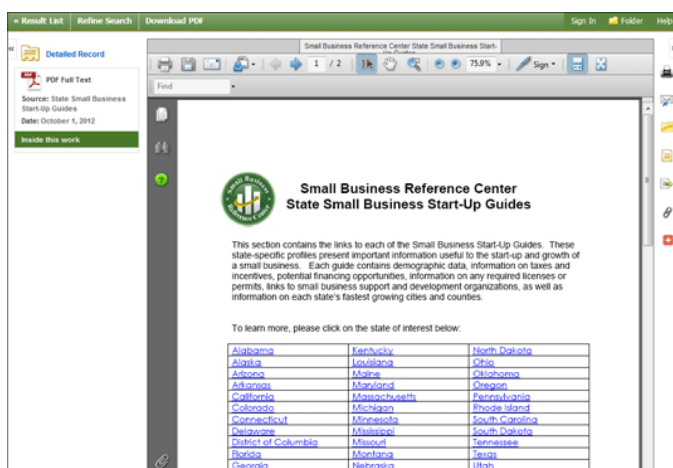
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### To Browse Start-Up Information:

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2. Click on the name of the state for which you would like to view the Small Business Start-Up Guide.



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## Small Business Start-Up Guide Massachusetts

### 1. GENERAL SMALL BUSINESS OVERVIEW

Massachusetts boasts a population of over 6.5 million residents, with a median household income of \$64,957 per year (2010). Small businesses play a significant part in the economy of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In 2009, Massachusetts had 131,454 small employers, representing 97.9 percent of the state's employers and 47.3 percent of its private-sector employment. In 2009, 1.4 million people in Massachusetts were employed by a small business. As of 2009, the health care and social assistance industry represented the state's largest small business employer. In 2010, Massachusetts had gross

Business QuickFacts

	Massachusetts	USA
Private nonfarm establishments, 2009	175,473	7,452,465
Private nonfarm employment, 2009	2,997,877	114,556,528
Private nonfarm employment, percent change 2005-2009	-0.3%	0.4%
Nonagriculture establishments, 2009	447,219	21,002,781
Total number of firms, 2007	586,790	27,282,988
Black-owned firms, percent, 2007	3.4%	7.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native-owned firms, percent, 2007	0.4%	0.3%
Asian-owned firms, percent, 2007	4.0%	5.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander-owned firms, percent, 2007	0.0%	0.1%

### Massachusetts Small Business Facts

	2009	2008	2006
Number of Businesses			
Small employers (<50 employees)	128,404	128,840	145,280
Large employers (50+ employees)	3,050	2,617	2,969
Nonemployers	447,219	402,841	412,481

Level as of 2009

	Firms	Employment	Receipts (\$B)
Business Owner Demographics			
Male-owned	336	987	202,004
Female-owned	179	987	202,004
Equally male/female-owned	64	130	17,493
African American-owned	21	11	1,211
Asian-owned	27	49	5,509
Hispanic-owned	19	17	1,521
Native American/Alaskan-owned	2	1	170
Hispanic/Pacific Islander-owned	0	0	17
Veteran-owned	59	185	41,981
Publicly held, unclassified	20	1,729	102,142

Level as of 2009

	2009	2008	2006
Workforce (Thousands) Unemployment (%)			
Private-sector employment	2,746	2.2	4.0
Government employment	436	0.0	0.0
Self-employed (include S corps)	107	-0.7	0.0
Female self-employment	103	-13.4	-13.9
Male self-employment	224	3.1	17.5
Minority self-employment	21	-27.2	-21.2
Veteran self-employment	29	-6.3	-46.1
	4.4	4.0	4.4

